

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BAMA KO 04279 010857Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-11 ACDA-12 IO-13 /111 W

-----061882 020457Z /15

R 311749Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY BAMA KO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0560

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAMA KO 4279

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, PINT, ML, SS

SUBJ: WESTERN SAHARAN DISPUTE: POSSIBLE MALIAN ROLE

1. SEVERAL INTER-RELATED DEVELOPMENTS DURING LAST WEEK HINT AT EFFORT BY MALI'S PRESIDENT MOUSSA TRAORE TO USE GOOD OFFICES IN WESTERN SAHARA DISPUTE. ONE IS UNCONFIRMED REPORT OF VISIT TO BAMA KO PAST FEW DAYS OF "POLISARIO" DELEGATION AUTHORIZED TO "MAKE REPRESENTATIONS," PRESUMABLY TO TRAORE. ANOTHER IS TIP TO EMBOFF THAT MALI'S FOREIGN MINISTER ALIOUNE BLONDINE BEYE VISITING ALGERIA (CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES), ALLEGEDLY CARRYING COMMUNICATION BASED ON CONTRACT WITH KING HASSAN. BEYE MAY VISIT MOROCCO LATER. MAUTITANIAN MINISTER OF YOUTH AND SPORTS, MAJOR THIAM EL HADJ, VISITED BAMA KO END OF JULY AND ANOTHER MEMBER OF COMMITTEE FOR NATIONAL RECOVERY MAY HAVE DROPPED IN LAST WEEK. BEYE STOPPED IN NOUAKCHOTT DURING RECENT 45 DAY DIPLOMATIC EXPEDITION. FINALLY, BAMA KO'S BEST HOTEL HAS BEEN ADVISED TO RESERVE ALL ROOMS FOR TEN DAYS IN OCTOBER, OSTENSIBLY FOR SAHELIAN CONFERENCE.

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2. IT IS NO SECRET HERE THAT TRAORE IS KEEN TO SEE WESTERN SAHARA DISPUTE SETTLED SOON. MALI FEARS ADVERSE REPERCUSSIONS STEMMING FROM PROXIMITY OF REMOTE PART OF MALI TO DISPUTED REGION. TRAORE SEES HIMSELF ON GOOD TERMS WITH ADVERSARIES. BUT BECAUSE ATTEMPT IN SPRING TO STAGE SAHARAN SUMMIT IN BAMA KO FIZZLED, LIKELY TO HOLD DETAILS OF ANY NEW INITIATIVE

VERY CLOSE TO HIS CHEST. THUS AT THIS STAGE EMBASSY'S INFORMATION IS SUGGESTIVE BUT NOT PERSUASIVE.

3. POST WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION ON POSSIBLE TRAORE
ROLE IN WESTERN SAHARA DISPUTE.
GRANER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISPUTES, VISITS, HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BAMAKO04279
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780359-0073
Format: TEL
From: BAMAKO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978081/aaaaaaou.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 48ae8457-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1536681
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WESTERN SAHARAN DISPUTE: POSSIBLE MALIAN ROLE
TAGS: PDIP, PINT, ML, (TRAORE, MOUSSA), (EL HADJ, THIAM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/48ae8457-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014